(d) the progress made so far under the Railway Projects started during the Eighth Five Year Plan in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Andhra Pradesh Government have suggested schemes for strengthening of the existing rail infrastructure in the twin cities of Hyderabad|Secunderabad and its electrification to facilitate intorduction of EMU train for intracity commuters.

(c) Pushpull trains have been introduced in the suburban corridors of Secunderabad-Bhongir and Bolarum-Secunderabad-Faluknuma section to improve the suburban services.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Separate allocations for suburban railway services

4636. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have written to the Planning Commission to make separate allocations for suburban railway service:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Railways have made a reference to the Planning Commission on the subject sending them the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Railways as contained in the Tenth Report of the Committee alongwith the views of the Ministry as given to the Committee.

(c) Does not arise.

Derailment of Vanchinad Express

4637. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a derailment of Vanchinad Express on the 2nd March, 1995;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for the derailment;

(c) the number of persons killed and injured therein;

(d) the details of compensations paid to the victims; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) On 1.3.95 at about 21.03 hrs., train engine and 4 coaches of train No. 6304 Up Trivandrum-Ernakulam Vanchinad Express derailed between Tripunnitura and Ernakulam Jn. stations of Trivandrum division of Southern Railway.

(b) The reasons will be known after Enquiry Committee submits its report

(c) None was either injured or killed.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The following are some of the safety measures taken to check accidents, including derailments:—

(i) Nearly 17,000 drivers with less than 10 year's active driving service have been specially screened and deficient drivers given out-of-course crash training.